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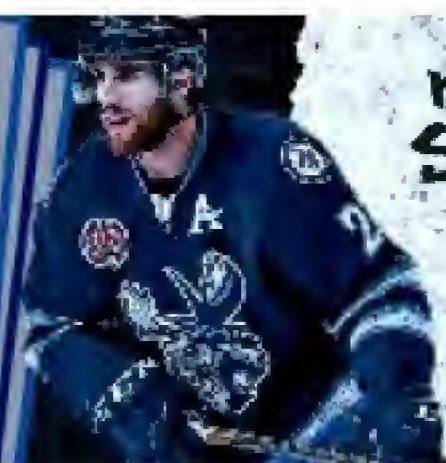


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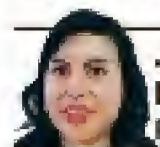
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FOCUS ON IMMIGRATION

Refugee 'bottleneck'

VIDEO HEARINGS

Local experts criticize newcomer claims process



Jessica Botelho-Urbanski
For Metro | Winnipeg

Though Manitoba's surge of asylum seekers is making international headlines, a local immigration consultant says not enough attention is being paid to how the province will process the onslaught of refugee claims.

Rosanna Pancotto, an immigration consultant with Prairie Sky Immigration, said some of her clients have waited up to five years to have their claims dealt with by the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada (IRB).

"It's easy to say, let's process them and they have this photo-op with the RCMP grabbing the kid," Pancotto said, referring to the now-viral photos of RCMP officers helping a Somali family

cross the border into Quebec.

"But the aftermath is what nobody is really talking about."

The IRB expanded from one to two offices in Winnipeg this month, but doesn't have any permanent members located in the city to hear refugee claims.

The Immigration Appeals Division occasionally sends members to Winnipeg to hear cases for about a week at a time, said Anna Pape, senior communications adviser with the IRB.

All refugee claim hearings are done via video conference calls from Vancouver or Calgary.

Pape said the Refugee Protection Division "does not have a substantial backlog" of hearings, though the Immigration Appeals Division is currently processing hearings from 2014.

Four of five local immigration experts Metro spoke to this week said having an IRB member situated in Winnipeg would speed up the hearings process.

Alastair Clarke, an immigration lawyer with Clarke Law, expressed concerns about the IRB members not being able to see refugee claimants delivering oral statements in person.

In the past month, hundreds of people have crossed the border in attempts to seek asylum and claim refugee status in Canada.

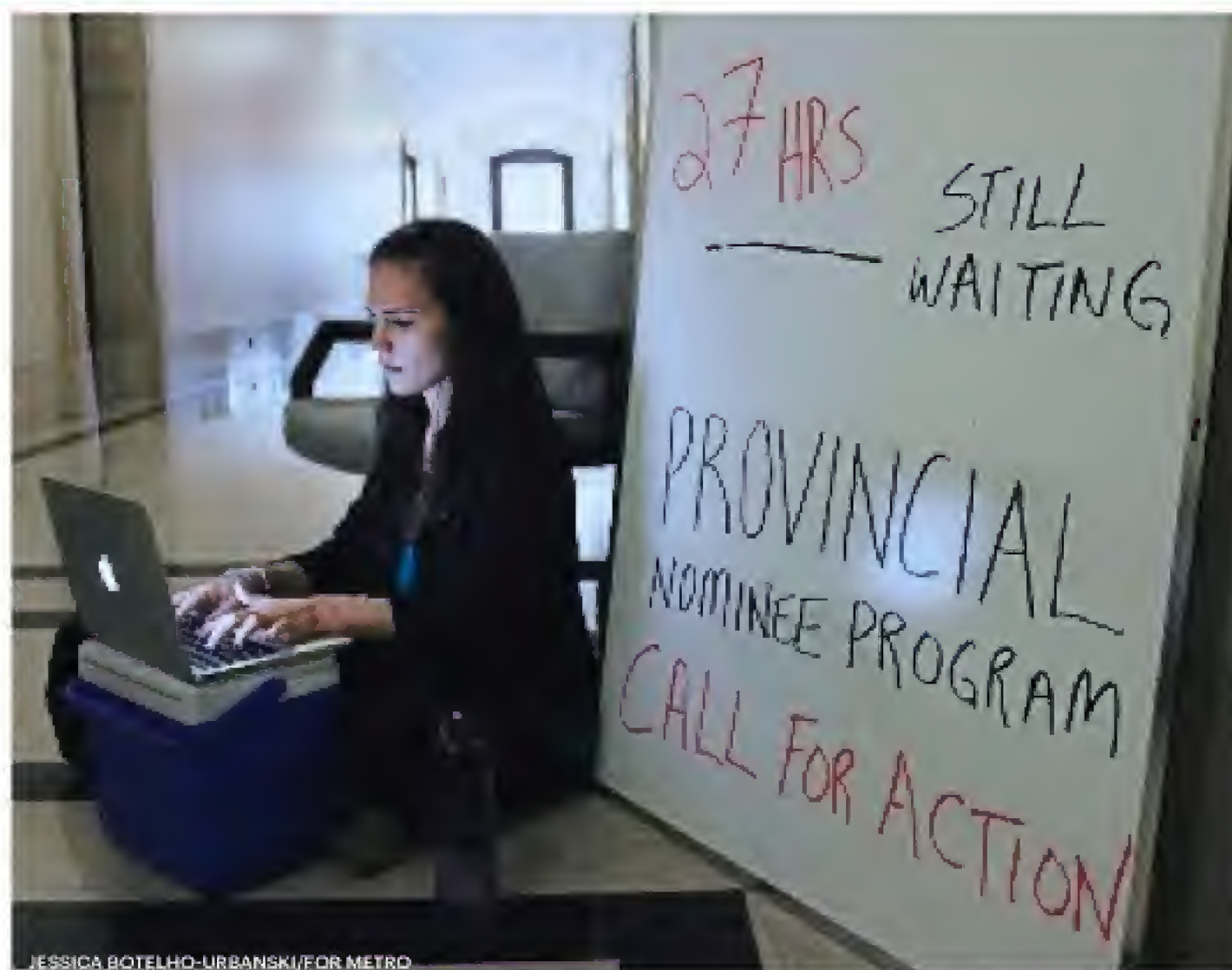
Sharing relevant paperwork between cities and proving documents, like birth certificates, are authentic can also take extra time from afar, he said.

Immigration lawyer Bashir Khan said in his experience, the video conference system was "quite adequate," while Pancotto said her clients left video hearings feeling "detached."

Pape said the IRB has no plans to hire members for Winnipeg, despite the influx of refugee claimants arriving from Emerson.

Regardless of how claims are heard, it's important the cases aren't rushed, said Shauna Labman, a law professor at the University of Manitoba.

"Rushing people through to address a backlog is not going to remove any of the issues in the system. It's just going to bottleneck it higher up in the system in terms of appeals and judicial review," Labman said.



JESSICA BOTELHO-URBANSKI/FOR METRO

SITTING to take a STAND

Why this Liberal politician brought her sleeping bag to the legislature **metroNEWS**



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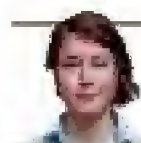
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ENVIRONMENT

City ready to review waste programs



Stephanie Taylor
Metro | Winnipeg

It's anyone's guess when Winnipeggers will be able to push a green bin to the curb.

On Monday, the city's environment committee will take a second crack at a vote to hire a consultant to review the current state of our garbage and recycling programs.

That vote was previously delayed at the request of committee chair Coun. Brian Mayes who sought more clarity from the city's chief administrative officer.

In a report written for the committee, Daryl Doubleday, the city's solid waste manager, says findings from the analysis would be presented to council in 2018.

He explains that the review will address the issue of organics pickup, but that any new

initiatives or changes to the city's waste collection services should wait until after the review is complete.

That means there's no timeline for when a citywide composting program could be introduced.

Water and waste staff report that organics make up 40 per cent of waste residents toss out and are the primary source of green house gas emissions from landfills.

In April 2016, council voted

for staff to scrap the organics consultation plan they had prepared to go the public later that year, following an outcry from some councillors and residents about the potential cost of the program.

Earlier this month, Mayes explained that it makes more sense to review the current waste management strategy—approved in 2011 and scheduled for a five-year review—before the city decides what to do about composting.



Murals, such as this one at 782 Main Street, can help deter graffiti and vandalism. METRO FILE PHOTO

Draw the line under graffiti

DOWNTOWN

There are now more eyes on the street to improve safety



Braeden Jones
Metro | Winnipeg

As much as Winnipeg loves its many murals, its downtown leaders care for graffiti tags a lot less.

Luckily, according to Shawn Matthews, the Downtown BIZ's director of safety and outreach initiatives, a new proactive safety strategy of the Winnipeg Police Service (WPS), called Centreline, is already paying off by limiting such activity.

He explained how Centreline, which involved specially training 200 officers to focus on crime and disorder downtown, has increased the number of police in the area at all hours, and "put more eyes on locations people would tag" in the process.

"That's what we like about Centreline... from the business perspective," he said.

From the BIZ perspective, having more officers around more often has been a boon for their "watch ambassadors," civilian patrollers who aim to improve street safety.

The watch patrollers act as extra eyes and ears for the WPS, and Matthews said having more of their members

nearby means they're even more effective at addressing petty crimes like graffiti, as was the case last weekend.

"Our overnight patrol spotted someone acting suspiciously in the back lane and took some quick measures by contacting the WPS immediately," he said, adding cops were already nearby when the watch made the call. "They were very responsive."

According to a WPS release, the watch ambassador observed the suspect tagging several businesses, parkades, signals and other buildings with spray paint.

After getting the call for backup, responding WPS officers searched the area, "located the suspect tagging a building," and made an arrest.

A 21-year-old is facing 42 mischief charges, as well as charges for possession of a weapon and cannabis.

As for the 27 or more properties that were tagged, Matthews says the BIZ has other programs to retroactively correct that issue.

"The Downtown BIZ is involved in graffiti removal, we send out teams every day to remove the graffiti from buildings and structures in the downtown," he said.

"We know there is a significant cost and impact to the perception of safety and cleanliness... so we've been having discussions about what it takes to not just apprehend those that are responsible, but also do more," he explained.



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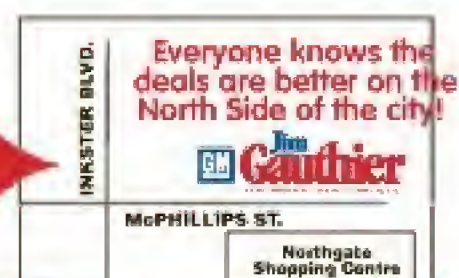
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POLITICS

Liberal MLA stages sit-in outside Wishart's office

A concerned MLA is employing an old-school political tactic to get answers from the minister responsible for immigration on the province's nominee program.

Cindy Lamoureux, the MLA for Burrows and the provincial Liberal Party's immigration critic, staged a sit-in outside Minister for Education and Training Ian Wishart's office starting Wednesday at 8:30 a.m.

Lamoureux said she spent the night in a sleeping bag on the marble floor outside Wishart's office, awaiting written answers to a series of requests she posed.

The requests include knowing how many applications for the nominee program are currently under review and when their decisions are expected; and getting status updates on files already in the system, with the applicant's consent.

Lamoureux said she has spoken with nearly 100 Manitobans who are concerned about the nominee program, many of whom have waited two to three years for decisions to be made in their cases.

"This is the only option

they've given me. I've asked questions in question period. I've made statements inside of the house. I've reached out to Immigration Manitoba only to be told that I wasn't welcome there," Lamoureux said.

"I've sent letters to both the minister as well as the deputy minister and the only responses I receive are from their staff saying, 'We've received your letter.' No actual responses."

Wishart had an impromptu meeting with Lamoureux late Wednesday to discuss her call for action. She said she's still waiting on his written responses to her questions.

In an interview, Wishart said Lamoureux "picked probably the worst day in a month to decide to do this because (between) cabinet and caucus all day (Wednesday), we had no time for her until after 5 p.m."

"Any new MLA is always learning what they can and

can't do," Wishart said. (Lamoureux was elected in 2016.)

"There are some things, because of confidentiality, some things we can't share. And I think she has blurred the line a little bit and she would like to know (confidential information) through her office."

Wishart said he met with Lamoureux and her father Kevin Lamoureux, the MP for Winnipeg North, in December to discuss immigration.

Wishart said his office would be providing written answers to her questions on Thursday.

He also noted there are "a lot" of changes coming to the province's nominee program, including trying to clear the "exceptionally long" waitlist.

There were about 1,200 applicants in the queue as of Thursday morning, Wishart said. His goal is to clear the list by April 1.

JESSICA BOTELHO-URBANSKI/FOR METRO

This is the only option they've given me.
Cindy Lamoureux

Border town gets urgent assistance

REFUGEE CRISIS

Paramedics, 14 extra beds, funds to help asylum seekers

Jessica Botelho-Urbanski
For Metro | Winnipeg

After calling on the federal government to adopt a "coordinated approach" in dealing with the influx of asylum seekers, the premier of Manitoba announced his own plans to dispatch emergency resources on Thursday.

At a morning press conference, Premier Brian Pallister and Minister of Education and Training Ian Wishart announced 14 emergency beds, \$70,000 in funding for MANSO (the Manitoba Association of Newcomer Serving Organizations) and \$110,000 for Welcome Place in 2017-2018.

The money for MANSO will be put toward hiring a refugee response coordinator, while the funding for Welcome Place will provide more access to support services, like paralegal advice and transportation from Emerson to Winnipeg, for refugee claimants.

"Manitobans have never, ever turned their backs on people," said Pallister. "(Manitoba) is once again the destination for those who dream of a better, safer life. Let's keep working together to make sure those folks, their dreams can come true right here in Manitoba."

Extra primary care paramedics will also be placed in the community of Emerson temporarily. They will assist volunteer emergency service providers already on the ground, Wishart said. He could not confirm how



Premier Brian Pallister visits Welcome Place Thursday to announce emergency support for refugee claimants crossing the Manitoba border from the United States. THE CANADIAN PRESS

many paramedics would be dispatched yet.

The announcement was welcomed by the reeve of Emerson-Franklin, Greg Janzen, who said emergency response to migrants crossing the border in the cold can strain resources in the sprawling rural area.

"For instance, two weekends ago, there were two medical calls (for migrants), so we had two ambulances sitting at the border. And ... when that happens ... then the whole south-central area (of Manitoba) is short two ambulances," Janzen said.

"If there's a traffic accident out in Plum Coulee (50 kilometres away) and all the ambulances are sitting at the border,

somebody's not getting service."

Pallister pressed the federal government "to go beyond the talking points of us having had a worse problem 15 years ago and recognize there is a challenge today."

"I don't want this to be taken as a criticism of the federal government," he said. "I see an opportunity here for the federal government that they're not yet pursuing to improve the way we do things and to help make sure that we're addressing the situation that some would fear is getting somewhat out of hand."

Wishart said around 130 refugee claimants have entered Manitoba so far this year.

WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

Winnipeg Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD) Patient Forum

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February 28th, 2017

6:30 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.

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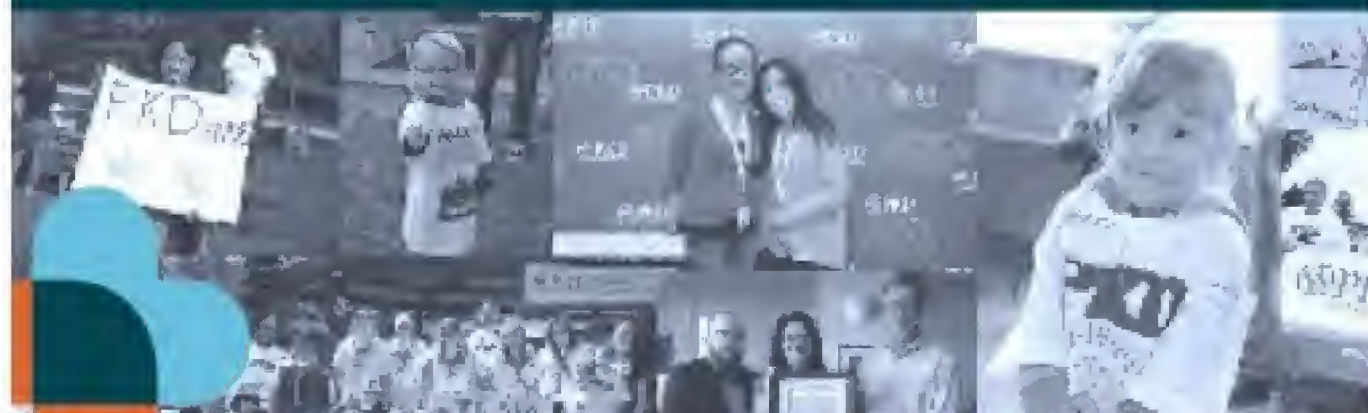
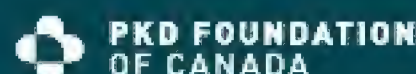
Polycystic kidney disease (PKD) is one of the most common life-threatening, genetic diseases affecting Canadians and can result in the growth of cysts that enlarge the affected kidney, destroying its ability to function.

Patients and their loved ones are invited to join this forum to:

- Learn about what a PKD diagnosis can mean for you or a loved one, as well as how PKD can be managed from **Dr. Navdeep Tangri, Nephrologist, Seven Oaks Hospital, Associate Professor, University of Manitoba;**
- Hear about what resources and support systems are available to you and your loved ones from **Jeff Robertson, Executive Director, PKD Foundation of Canada;**
- Have your questions answered during a Q&A period led by Dr. Navdeep Tangri and Jeff Robertson; and
- Meet other people living with PKD in your community.

All are welcome to attend!

To RSVP and confirm your participation, please visit:
WinnipegPKDPatientForum.EventBrite.ca



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Four things to do this weekend

Festival du Voyageur and a feisty feminist — there are lots of ways to keep those in-the-dead-of-winter blues away this weekend.

LUCY SCHOLEY METRO



Severn Thompson plays Marguerite in *Elle*, a mostly one-woman show. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

1 A tale of a French feminist

A 16th feisty French feminist is left to die off the coast of Newfoundland before it was Newfoundland. *Elle*, a play based on an award-winning novel of the same name, tells the true story of Marguerite de La Rocque de Roberval, the niece of a French nobleman who worked under Jacques Cartier during his efforts to settle La Belle Province. Severn Thompson, who adapted the book for the stage, plays Marguerite in this mostly one-woman show. A standard adult ticket costs \$25-50. It's the play's first weekend in Winnipeg, but it runs until March 12.

2 Prehistoric times in the 'Peg

Big news for dinosaur

nerds: You can embark on a prehistoric journey through the tale of the "lost giant of the cretaceous." The Spinosaurus bears the title as the biggest dino ever discovered, even larger than the T. Rex. National Geographic's own Nizar Ibrahim will walk Winnipeggers through the story of the spino's discovery in Morocco more than half a century ago, the loss of its remains during the Second World War, and its rediscovery. Tickets start at \$19 and are available on Ticketmaster. The show starts at the Centennial Concert Hall Sunday at 2 p.m.

3 Final Festival fix

It's your last chance for Festival du Voyageur. It'll be sunny, but likely less of a slushy mess this weekend with

temperatures expected to stay sub-zero between now and then. Take your ice cleats and your poutine to the Pembina Tent on Friday for prog-rock band Moon Tan or the Riviere-Rouge Tent on Saturday for 90s-esque rap trio 3Peat.

4 Winnipeg Comedy Show turns three

Winnipeg's best comedians are celebrating a milestone in the comedy scene. It marks three years since the crew first put on the Winnipeg Comedy Showcase. Paul Rabliauskas, Ben Walker, Tyler Penner, Melanie Dahling, Andy Noble, and Angie St Mars will honour the occasion with a few laughs at The Park Theatre on Friday night at 9 p.m. Tickets cost \$10.

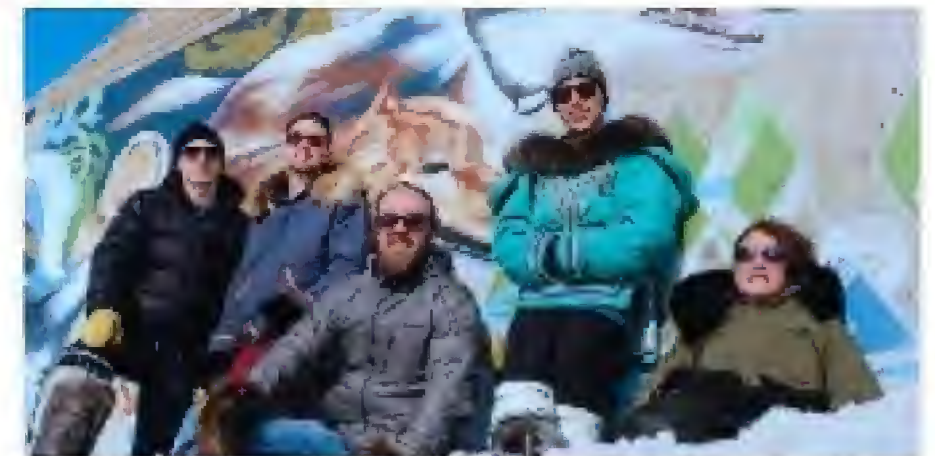
Jerry Cans break language barriers

MUSIC

Iqaluit folk band speaks exclusively in Inuktitut



Nigel Moore
For Metro | Winnipeg



The Jerry Cans sing exclusively in Inuktitut. CONTRIBUTED

The best way to tell the stories of and for the Arctic is in Inuktitut, the language of the Inuit people.

That's according to Nancy Mike, featured Inuk throat singer and accordionist for the Iqaluit-based folk-rock band The Jerry Cans. The band will perform Friday night at the West End Cultural Centre.

Guitarist and vocalist Andrew Morrison, who is also Mike's husband, sings almost exclusively in Inuktitut. On the phone from Iqaluit, Mike acknowledged the band faces a language barrier on tour.

"We get people who talk to

us and say, 'I really wish that I could understand the lyrics in these songs, because I do feel what you're trying to convey.' They always say they can feel it, and they feel like they can understand on an emotional level," said Mike. "But they don't understand what we're singing about, unless they of course speak Inuktitut."

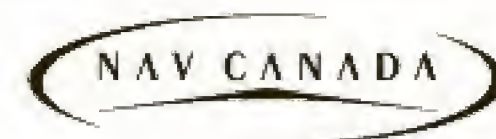
The Jerry Cans also include Gina Burgess, Brendan Doherty and Steve Rigby.

The title of their new album *Inuusiq*, means Life. "A lot of the songs talk about what it's like to live up here in the North, and to

be Inuk or to be a young person living here with the social issues that we face, the celebrations that we have, and the way that we live in Inuit culture."

"I wasn't educated on the history of where I lived until later on in my life, and so it became a learning curve. Understanding the history has brought me to a place where I'm very much more comfortable and proud to be who I am — an Inuk," she said.

Tickets are \$15 at the West End Cultural Centre, Ticketfly.com, Into The Music and Music Trader.



Notice of Community Consultation

NAV CANADA proposes airspace improvements for Winnipeg International Airport

NAV CANADA is seeking public input on proposed changes to aircraft arrival and departure procedures at Winnipeg James Richardson International Airport.

Updates to standard arrival routes as well as the implementation of new technologies are planned as part of the proposal. The proposed flight paths are estimated to save up to three minutes flying time for arrivals, with greenhouse gas emissions reductions estimated at 800 metric tonnes each year.

Required Navigation Performance (RNP) is a new navigation technology that combines satellite-based positioning with modern flight management systems, allowing an aircraft to fly a precise route. This allows for the design of flight paths that are shorter and that provide for a continuous descent. Initially, only a small portion of aircraft — approximately 20 per cent — will be equipped to fly the new procedure.

Proposed updates to departure procedures will allow for the use of satellite navigation while following the same initial departure headings used today.

NAV CANADA has made information, including maps, on proposed flight path changes available online at navcanada.ca/YWG. Residents are invited to learn about changes and provide feedback by April 2, 2017 using the comment tool available on the website.

Residents of Winnipeg and surrounding communities can also attend any of the following drop-in Open House Consultation Events:

March 8, 2017 – 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Headingley Community Centre
5353 Portage Ave
Headingley, MB
R4H 1J9

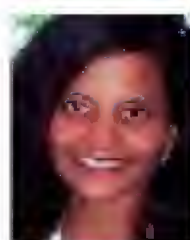
March 18, 2017 – 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
Four Points by Sheraton Winnipeg South
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March 9, 2017 – 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
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Study shows plight of detained Canadian kids

REFUGEES

One boy spent 803 days in an immigration holding centre

Canada has placed more than 200 Canadian children in immigration detention with their non-status parents since 2011, alongside hundreds of formally detained non-Canadian children, says University of Toronto study.

Based on data obtained from the Canada Border Services Agency, the U of T International Human Rights Program found at least 241 Canadian-born children — an average of 48 a year — were held in the immigration holding centre in Toronto between 2011 and 2015. The data do not cover detention facilities in other parts of Canada. On average, they spent 36 days at the detention centre with their incarcerated parents, with one boy spending 803 days — over two years — in the detention facility.

Two-thirds of the detained chil-



Lena Alexander, a failed refugee from Grenada, was held at the immigration holding centre with her Canadian-born children Crystal and Dameon in 2005. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

dren were housed there for longer than a week and about 31 per cent were held for longer than a month. Eighty-five per cent of the children were under age 6.

"Children who experience even brief periods of detention have extremely negative psychological reactions that often persist long after they are released," warned the 63-page study, *Invisible Citizens: Canadian Children in Immigration Detention*, released Thursday.

"Children who are spared detention but are separated from their detained parents experience similarly grave consequences for their mental health."

Interviews by researchers with nine detained and formerly detained mothers of Canadian children from the Middle East, West Africa, Central America and the Caribbean found the children had difficulty sleeping, lost their appetite, lost their interest in play, and developed symptoms

of depression and separation anxiety, as well as a variety of physical symptoms.

"Many of these symptoms persisted after release from detention," the study warned.

According to the border services policy, Canadian children should only accompany their detained parents if there are no family members or friends to care for them, if they are still being breastfed, are too young to be separated from parents or have health issues.

"Canadian children are invisible in Canada's immigration detention system," said Samer Muscati, the human rights program's director. "While all detention of children is horrible, these children are particularly vulnerable because they lack important legal safeguards, including their own detention review hearings."

Under immigration law, these Canadian-born children are citizens and cannot be formally detained, hence they are unable to access legal proceedings that review their continued "de facto" detention, said Muscati.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

IMMIGRATION

Higher fees cause dip in citizenship applications

The number of immigrants applying for citizenship has plunged by a whopping 50 per cent at the same time as Ottawa has stripped a record number of Canadians of their citizenship.

According to the latest data from the Immigration Department, only 56,446 new citizenship applications were received in the first nine months of last year, a sharp decline from the 111,993 during the same period in 2015.

The number of new citizens approved also dropped by 48 per cent from 198,119 to 111,435 over the same period, said Andrew Griffith, a retired

director general of the department who obtained the data.

While the tightened language proficiency and longer residency requirements have contributed to the decline, the steep increase in citizenship application fees under the former Conservative government is a key factor, Griffith said.

The processing fee was raised from \$100 to \$300 in February 2015 and again to \$530 later that year, with an additional \$100 right-of-citizenship fee required once the application is approved. Historically, citizenship applications have averaged close to 200,000 per year. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Canadian author Boyden faces plagiarism allegations

Controversy continues to follow Canadian author Joseph Boyden. Accusations of similarities between one of his texts and a story by an Ojibway storyteller have now surfaced, barely a month after the authenticity of his indigenous identity came under question.

An article by Jorge Barrera

published by APTN focuses on similarities found in a small book by healer and storyteller Ron Geyshick called *Té Bwe Win* and a story titled "Bearwalker" that appeared in Boyden's 2001 short-story collection *Born With a Tooth*.

Boyden denies he copied the story. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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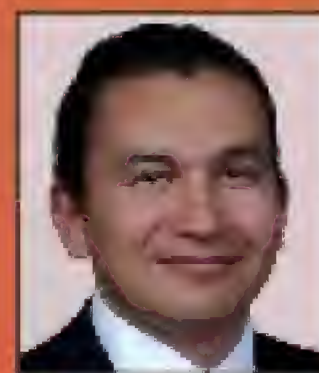
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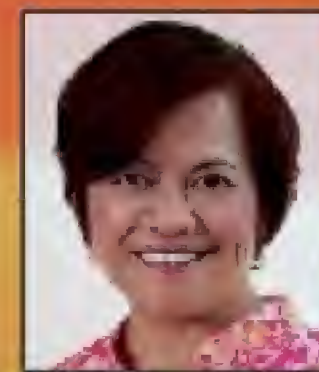
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Free speech alive and well in U.S.

Rosemary Westwood has relocated from Canada to the U.S. She chronicles her observations in a weekly column with Metro.

ROSEMARY
WESTWOOD
From the U.S.



Everyone loves a hypocrite, which is to say, hates. Hates with pleasure, really, and never more so than in politics.

Enter the left-wing glee this week when Milo Yiannopoulos lost his book deal, lost his job at the extreme right wing website Breitbart, and was kicked off the program for the Conservative Political Action Conference.

For the avowed free-speech loving right-wing of American politics, Yiannopoulos's resurfaced support of sex between men and 13-year-old boys was a bridge too far, and in rejecting him, they tripped over the "acceptable speech" line so many had, in their own glee, raged against for years.

Down came the implicit support for the extreme right, though not for confer-



Milo Yiannopoulos announces his resignation from Breitbart News during a press conference in New York City. After comments he made regarding pedophilia surfaced in an online video, Yiannopoulos was uninvited to speak at CPAC and lost a major book deal with Simon & Schuster. GETTY IMAGES

ence-sponsor Breitbart itself, and out went white supremacist Richard Spencer when he tried to enter the conference on Thursday.

If this all sounds a little

college lefty, safe-space-esque, "we don't condone that kind of talk here," that's because it is. And in becoming what they supposedly detest, a great swath of extreme right

sympathizers masquerading as first-amendment lovers have been undone.

But the proof that no one need fear for the state of free speech, especially not anti-immigrant, anti-gay, anti-woman, anti-Muslim and anti-Black speech, came in its most abundant, outrageous and glowing orange from a year and a half ago in Donald Trump himself. If Trump, who possesses an uncanny ability to mix pointed insults with otherwise inscrutable speech, could find himself in the oval office, America's problems do not include threats to right-wing free speech.

Shutting down Yiannopoulos' campus talks or criticizing publishers or firing that nonprofit director who called Michelle Obama an "ape in heels" — these are not attacks on free speech. They are simply evidence of consequence. As in, individual responsibility, or the right's political *raison d'être*.

It's somewhere on the spectrum of irritating to outright infuriating that I, and thousands of people on Twitter, feel the need to keep pointing out this idea of consequence, as well as the fact that no one is obliged to listen to you.

When I ran all this by a friend the other day, he shook his head in disgust at the very idea of spending a whole column, like this, yet again discussing the first amendment.

"Everyone talks about free speech," he said. "What about good ideas?"

What, indeed.

The cultural focus on what one can say does seem to have drowned out questions about what's really worth listening to. Richard Spencer was swarmed by media as he was kicked out of CPAC. Yiannopoulos has found fame through bigotry. Donald Trump, well, we all know what happened to him.

And it wasn't a good idea.

EQUALITY

Bills targeting trans rights floundering

Bills to curtail transgender people's access to public restrooms are pending in about a dozen states, but even in conservative bastions such as Texas and Arkansas they may be doomed by high-powered opposition.

The bills have taken on a new significance this week following the decision by President Donald Trump's administration to revoke an Obama-era federal directive instructing public schools to let transgender students use bathrooms and locker rooms of their chosen gender. Many conservative leaders hailed the assertions by top Trump appointees that the issue was best handled at the state and local level.

Yet at the state level, bills that would limit transgender bathroom access are floundering. The chief reason, according to transgender-rights leaders, is the backlash that hit North Carolina after its legislature approved a bill in 2016 requiring transgender people to use restrooms that correspond to the sex on their birth certificates. Several major sports organizations shifted events away from North Carolina, and businesses decided not to expand in the state. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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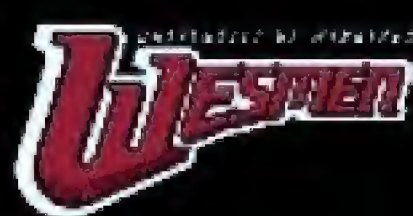


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Jeanette Vizguerra, an undocumented immigrant in the U.S. for 20 years, has taken refuge in a church in Denver, Colorado, with her family for fear of being deported. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Immigrants brace for arrests in U.S.

DEPORTATIONS

U.S. crackdown prompts many to change up daily routines

In Orange County, California, dozens of immigrant parents have signed legal documents authorizing friends and relatives to pick up their children from school and access their bank accounts to pay their bills in the event they are arrested by immigration agents.

In Philadelphia, immigrants are carrying around wallet-size Know Your Rights guides in Spanish and English that ex-

plain what to do if they're rounded up.

And in New York, 23-year-old Zuleima Dominguez and other members of her Mexican family are careful about answering the door and start making worried phone calls when someone doesn't come home on time.

Around the country, President Donald Trump's efforts to crack down on the estimated 11 million immigrants living illegally in the U.S. have spread fear and anxiety and led many people to brace for arrest and to change up their daily routines in hopes of not getting caught.


In El Paso, Texas, Carmen Ramos and her friends have de-

veloped a network to keep each other updated via text messages on where immigration checkpoints have been set up.

She said she also is making certain everything she does is in order at all times. She checks her taillights before leaving the house to make sure they are working. She won't speed and keeps a close eye on her surroundings.

The unease among immigrants has been building but intensified in recent weeks with ever-clearer signs that the Trump administration would jettison the Obama-era policy of focusing mostly on deporting those who had committed serious crimes.

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
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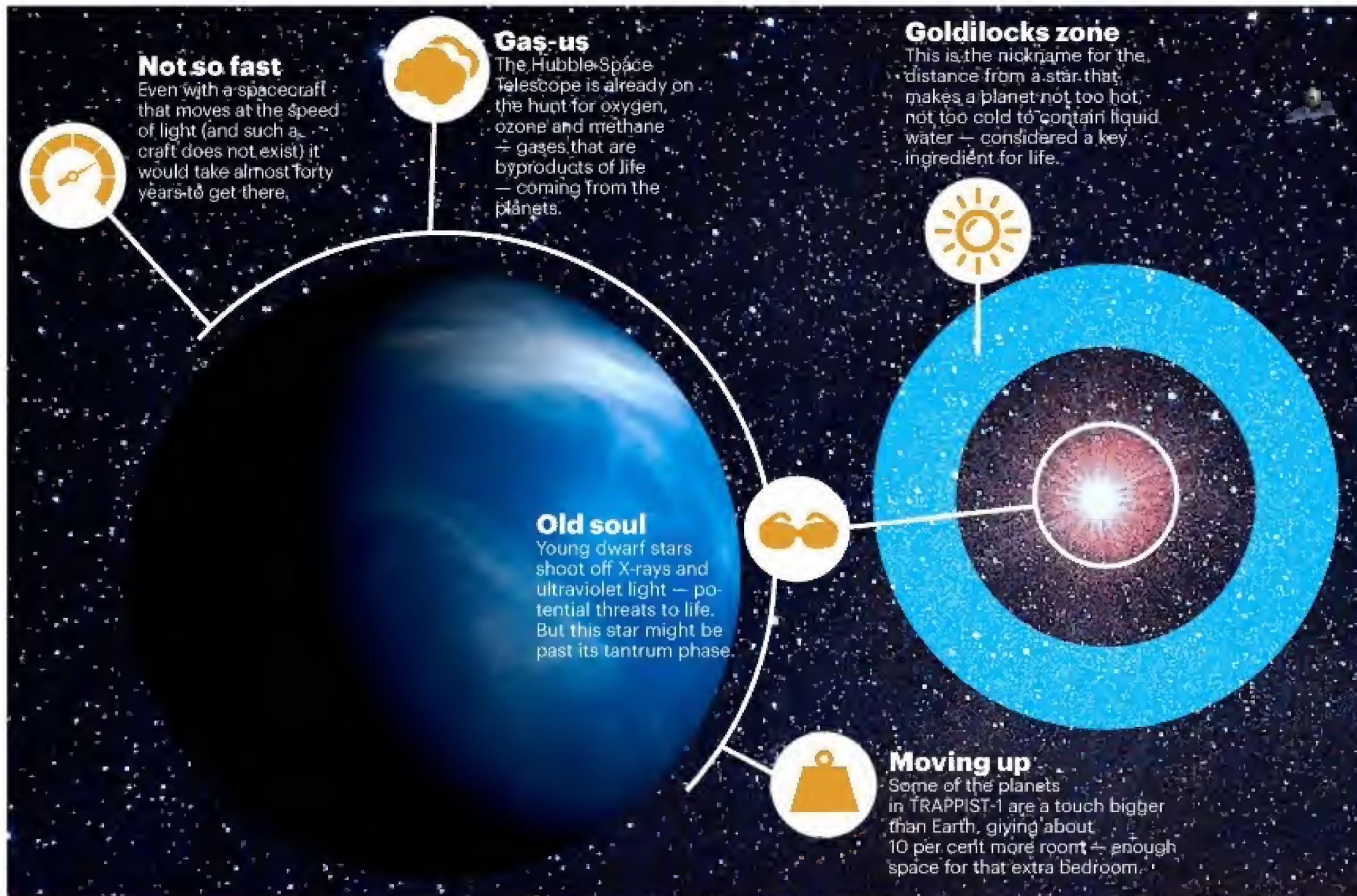
Major Mickey 20 live mice arrived at the International Space Station this week to test how wounds heal in zero gravity

DECODED by Sarah-Joyce Battersby and Andrés Plana

BACKUP PLANET



Scientists discovered seven Earth-sized planets a mere 40 light-years away from us — at least three of which could theoretically support life as we know it. **So should we start packing our bags?**



FINDINGS Your week in science



The Eagle takes flight
The Apollo 11 command module is going on a road trip. The capsule took Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin to the moon in 1969, but has mostly stayed put at the Smithsonian in D.C. since its historic journey. The tour will hit four U.S. cities ahead of the 50th anniversary of the lunar mission.

Stuck on you
Juno, NASA's Jupiter orbiter, is taking four times longer than expected to circle the gas giant. Some valves on the craft are sticky, upping the 14-day journey to 53 days, and boosting the billion-dollar bill.

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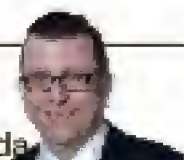
'Social thriller' tackles racism

GET OUT

Jordan Peele turns lens on racial tension in film debut

Richard Crouse

For Metro Canada



Jordan Peele learned how to scare people by making them laugh. As characters like Funkenstein's Monster on the popular sketch show Key & Peele he investigated popular culture, ethnic stereotypes and race relations through a satirical lens.

Get Out, his directorial debut, however, contains few laughs. By design. It's a horror film about college students Rose and Chris, played by Allison Williams and Daniel Kaluuya. Things are getting serious and it's time to meet the parents. "Do they know I'm black?" he asks. She assures him race is a non-issue as they head to her leafy up-state hometown to meet parents Missy and Dean (Catherine Keener and Bradley Whitford). After a few days Chris feels uneasy, a sensation compounded by an alarming call from his best friend. "I've been doing my research and a whole lot of brothers have gone missing in that suburb," he says. Chris wonders if his hosts are

racist and deadly or just racist.

"It's a horror movie from an African American's perspective," Peele told Forbes.com.

While working on the script Peele sought advice from Sean of the Dead director Edgar Wright and other genre filmmakers but says ultimately his career in comedy was the best training to make a horror film.

Making people laugh, he declares, and scaring the pants off them share a similar skill set. Both are all about pacing, reveals and both must feel like they take place in reality he says.

His love of horror dates back to watching A Nightmare on Elm Street as a teen. It was the first movie that really terrified him. Since then, he says the first sight of Hannibal Lecter in Silence of the Lambs really frightened him. "You come down the hallway, and he's just waiting for you," he told the New York Times. "It's the protagonist in motion and something waiting for him, patiently and calmly. Those are so chilling to me."

Get Out isn't a typical horror film, however. Peele refers to it

as a "social thriller," a movie that veers away from the Nightmare on Elm Street thrills that made such an impression on him as a teen. Instead the main villain is something more insidious than even the slash-happy Freddy Krueger; it's racial tension. He says the story is personal but is quick to add it speedily veers off from anything strictly autobiographical. Instead it is an exploration of racism in all its forms he hopes will ultimately be relatable for his audience no matter who they are.

He compares Chris's anxiety to Sidney Poitier's classic Guess Who's Coming to Dinner. In that film parents, played by Spencer Tracy and Katharine Hepburn, have their attitudes challenged when their daughter introduces them to her African American fiancé. He says the uncomfortable situation of meeting in-laws for the first time is universal. "The layer of race that enriches and complicates that tension (in the film) becomes relatable," he told GQ. "It's made to be an inclusive movie. If you don't go through the movie with the main character, I haven't done my job right."



Chris, played by Daniel Kaluuya, with girlfriend Rose, played by Allison Williams, are the protagonists in Get Out, "a horror movie from an African American's perspective." CONTRIBUTED



MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Get Out	★★★★
A United Kingdom	★★★
The Girl with All the Gifts	★★★★
I Am Not Your Negro	★★★★
Dying Laughing	★★

HOW RATING WORKS

★★★★	SEE IT
★★★	WORTHWHILE
★★	UP TO YOU
★	SKIP IT

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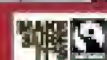
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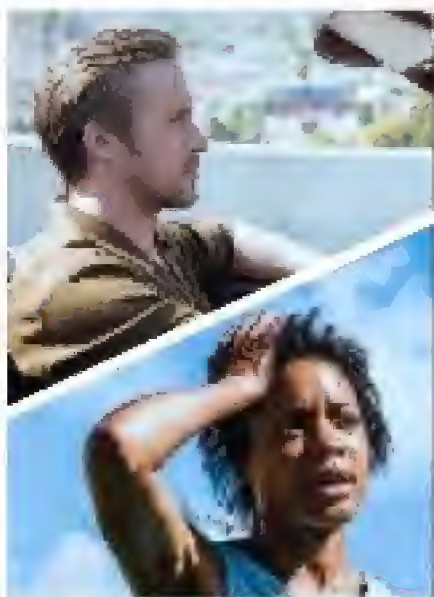


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Who will be the best of the very best?

A La La Landslide? Maybe not. Here are our picks for who will/should win. PETER HOWELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



BEST PICTURE

Will: La La Land or Moonlight
Could: Hidden Figures
Should: Moonlight
Why: The safe money is supposedly on La La Land to win, but I consider this category too close to call. Moonlight's unique coming-of-age story has so much resonance to modern times, I'm thinking — hoping — that the Academy will go for it. And Hidden Figures just might surprise everybody, much like Spotlight did last year.



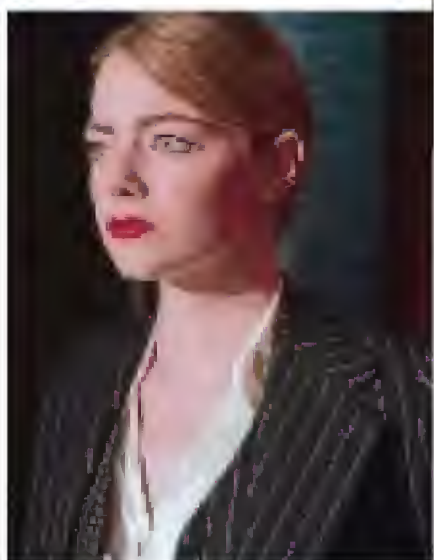
BEST DIRECTOR

Will: Barry Jenkins (Moonlight) or Damien Chazelle, (La La Land)
Could: Denis Villeneuve (Arrival)
Should: Barry Jenkins
Why: If voters go La La Land for best picture, then I think they'll choose Jenkins for best director, which would significantly make him the first African-American director to win this honour. And if they choose Moonlight for Best Picture, then Chazelle for Best Director.



BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

Will: Viola Davis (Fences)
Could: Michelle Williams (Manchester by the Sea)
Should: Naomie Harris (Moonlight)
Why: This is the easiest Oscar to call and the toughest to endorse. Davis will win for her tremendous performance, although it's arguably category fraud: she really should be up for best actress. Williams defines strong support with her brief Manchester scenes. But Harris exceeds all stereotypes.



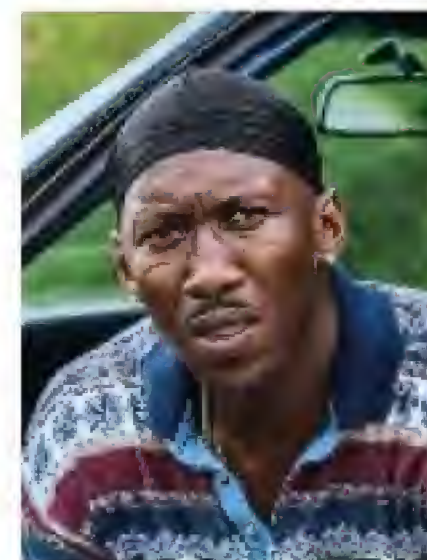
BEST ACTRESS

Will: Emma Stone (La La Land)
Could: Natalie Portman (Jackie) or Isabelle Huppert (Elle)
Should: Natalie Portman
Why: Front-runner Stone is all set to be the belle of the Oscars with her enchanting performance. But the inner fortitude Portman displayed as the widowed Jacqueline Kennedy impressed me more. Huppert is long overdue for an Oscar and a win is possible and deserved.



BEST ACTOR

Will: Casey Affleck (Manchester by the Sea)
Could: Denzel Washington (Fences)
Should: Casey Affleck
Why: Affleck and Washington each play tortured souls in their respective roles of defeated family men. Affleck's performance was bone deep and truly memorable; Washington's was solid yet showy. But Denzel is a two-time Oscar champ and he won at SAG this year.



BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

Will: Mahershala Ali (Moonlight)
Could: Jeff Bridges (Hell or High Water)
Should: Mahershala Ali
Why: Ali has been the obvious choice here ever since he first wowed audiences at TIFF and other fall festivals with his deeply affecting and stereotype-busting portrayal of a fatherly drug dealer. It will be a huge upset if he loses.



BEST ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY

Will: Manchester by the Sea
Could: La La Land
Should: Manchester by the Sea
Why: Voters often bestow this as a consolation prize to films they aren't choosing for best picture, so Manchester by the Sea may win for that reason. More than this, though, writer/director Kenneth Lonergan truly deserves recognition for finding a beating heart within the depths of tragedy and despair, and also some welcome notes of comedy.

BEST ADAPTED SCREENPLAY

Will: Moonlight
Could: Arrival
Should: Moonlight
Why: How do you find poetry in a crime-infested and crack-ridden Miami neighbourhood? Writer/director Barry Jenkins shows how with Moonlight, which he adapted from an unproduced play by Tarell Alvin McCraney. It would be no shame if Eric Heisserer's impactful adaption of Ted Chiang's cerebral short story for Story of Your Life took the prize for Arrival.



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Met offers exercise amid art

PERFORMANCE

MetLiveArts hosting classes three years in the making

New York City's cavernous Metropolitan Museum of Art has been holding lively morning workout sessions this winter amid its prized masterpieces.

The 45-minute Museum Workout sends people in exercise attire chugging through 35 galleries, past paintings, sculptures, armour and other treasures, before the venerable Fifth Avenue institution opens to the public.

On a recent morning, an overnight snowstorm didn't deter the 15 people who'd signed up for the session.

It started with a warmup: calf stretches in the museum's grand limestone entrance and an easy jog out to the Bee Gees' hit 'Stayin' Alive'. Then came the speedy trek through the galleries and up the preserved ornate staircase of the 19th century Chicago stock exchange.

There were squats in front of John Singer Sargent's Portrait of Madame X, balancing on one leg before Henry VIII's rigid armour, a yoga pose before a bronze nude of the Roman hunting goddess Diana, and jumping jacks in-between, all to a soundtrack of disco and Motown hits.

Why bother travelling to a Manhattan museum — some did, from Pennsylvania, Kentucky and even California — just to exercise?

"This offers you amazing mo-



An exercise group lies in a yoga post at the feet of a bronze statue of Diana, Roman goddess of the hunt. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ments," said participant Oliver Ryan, who runs a New York corporate wellness company. "We did our first stretch, and there in the vast gallery was Perseus holding the head of Medusa. What hit me was this was the TV of ancient times, a frozen moment from a story everyone knew."

The Met commissioned the

innovative Monica Bill Barnes Dance Company for the project. It was choreographed by the two women leading the workout — Monica Bill Barnes herself and her dance partner, Anna Bass — along with Robert Saenz de Viteri, the company's creative producing director.

Bass said the team worked

"obsessively" calculating how to keep a safe distance from the artworks. That means no wild swinging of arms or legs, and exercising a minimum of three feet or so from any treasure.

Leading scantily clad, pumped up bodies around the artworks "really runs against the culture of being in a museum, being

quiet and being still and walking slowly," said Barnes.

"We're in the business of making strange things," she added with a wry smile, "bringing dance where it doesn't belong."

De Viteri helped guide the workout session in a vintage tuxedo and sneakers, holding a laptop attached to a speaker that

channeled music and recorded narration by artist and author Maira Kalman, who selected the art and gallery route.

"Something very physical happens to me when I'm in a museum. I get this rush of excitement, this kind of tingle of mad, passionate arousal," Kalman's recorded voice said as the group did side-stretches in front of a stern-looking bust of Benjamin Franklin.

The workout ends with everyone lying on their back, eyes closed, on the floor of the Met's luminous American wing. This yoga pose, called savasana, is meant to release tension from mind and body while absorbing the benefits of the dynamic exercises. Rising over the human stillness is Augustus Saint-Gaudens' ancient goddess — the resplendent, gilded Diana, about to release her arrow.

The first sessions, from Jan. 19 through Feb. 12, were sold out months ago. The interest was so intense that more were added, through March 9, and they're also sold out. Participants, both men and women, have ranged in age from 13 to 85.

Museum officials say there are no immediate plans for a future staging of what is essentially a "performance piece" that took three years to create, with each participant movement matching music and visuals moment by moment.

The Museum Workout was commissioned by the museum's MetLiveArts performance series and partly funded by the Jerome Robbins Foundation and One World Fund.

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EXHIBITION

Show paints Vermeer as borrower

His luminous strokes produced masterpieces like *Girl with a Pearl Earring*.

But Vermeer, the unique jewel in Dutch painting's crown, copied ideas from his contemporaries like every other artist, argues a new major exhibit at the Louvre Museum in Paris that opened Wednesday.

Five years in the making, Vermeer and the Masters of Genre Painting presents a third of the Dutch Golden Age master's complete opus to the public. It is the biggest such collection of the old master's work in Europe in almost two decades.

It shows that, however revolutionary some elements of his paintings were, Vermeer also heavily borrowed from his rivals.

"In a way, Vermeer is not very original because he picks ideas from different contemporaries. His themes are very classical — music-making, lacemaking — that's been done before," curator Blaise Ducos said on Tuesday during a preview of the show.

Ducos said the genius of Vermeer, who died at 43 and produced just 36 paintings, can be seen in how he transformed rehashed themes and techniques.

"He has a distinct, specific psychology. I think there is a



A visitor takes a photo of *The Milkmaid* at the Louvre's exhibition *Vermeer and the Masters of Genre Painting*. GETTY IMAGES

mood in Vermeer that you do not find in other paintings," Ducos said.

Vermeer's 12 oil paintings in the show, including *The Milkmaid* on loan from Amsterdam's Rijksmuseum, are hung side-by-side with 58 similar works by his 17th-century rivals such as Gerrit Dou and Garard ter Borch.

The exhibit also aims to dispel the widely-held belief that Vermeer was sedentary and seldom left the Dutch town of Delft.

"The show here presents another story ... all the refined paintings here prove that he must have been in touch directly with other paintings and other painters, so both in studios and collectors' mansions," said Ducos. "He must have travelled inside the Netherlands."

The exhibit runs to May 22 at the Louvre and will travel to the National Gallery of Art in Washington D.C. in the fall. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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The 168 MLB players eligible for arbitration averaged a 113 per cent raise with Wil Myers landing the biggest pay increase (\$523,900-\$13.8 million)

Winnipeg rink leaning on Englot's experience

CURLING

Skip brings composure into playoffs at Scotties

Michelle Englot was recruited precisely for this situation.

Short on previous playoff experience at the Canadian women's curling championship, Manitoba will now lean on a woman who has been there, done that.

The team from Winnipeg's Granite Curling Club claimed its playoff spot at the Scotties Tournament of Hearts with a 7-2 win Thursday over B.C.

At 9-1, the Manitobans' final round-robin game was a marquee matchup at night against undefeated Rachel Homan of Ontario.

Third Kate Cameron, 25, is making her Hearts debut in St. Catharines, Ont., while front end Leslie Wilson, 37, and Raunora Westcott, 40, played in it for Cathy Overton-Clapham in 2011 and Jill Thurston in 2010.

The closest Wilson and Westcott came to playoffs was losing

a tiebreaker in 2010.

Englot, 53, skipped Saskatchewan to the playoffs twice in seven appearances. She finished third in both 1988 and 1989.

"Back in '88 and '89, we didn't really realize how big this is," Englot said. "Now, we know how big this is, but yet, in the same breath we need to stay the course, stay relaxed and stay focused."

The Regina resident — Curling Canada allows each team to have one out-of-province member — has been doing that in the preliminary round.

"She's patient, she's calm," Cameron said. "If I miss a shot she's 'no worries Kate.' There's no anger."

"I'm more of a fiery player than she is, so for each other we bring out the best in that way. She can really guide my team to stay calm in those high-pressure situations."

Englot knows from experience how difficult it is to win your province and get to the Canadian championship. She's revelled in her new team's performance both in the Manitoba playdowns and in St. Catharines.

"This has been a really fantastic fairy-tale year," the skip said. "This year has been more exciting for me just because I know

She can really guide my team to stay calm in those high-pressure situations.

Kate Cameron



Skip Michelle Englot and her Manitoba rink went into Thursday night's Tournament of Hearts match against Ontario with a 9-1 record. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

the team is super-talented and we have the opportunity to be at the top.

"We know if we play well we can definitely compete with any team in the world, so we're looking forward to the playoffs."

The four teams with the best records get into the Page playoff, with ties for fourth solved by tiebreaker games.

The preliminary round concludes Friday morning followed by a playoff game at night between the top two seeds. Homan was assured a top-two finish and thus will play Friday night.

The winner goes directly to Sunday's final. The loser drops to Saturday night's semifinal to face the winner of the afternoon playoff between the third and

fourth seeds.

Defending champion Chelsey Carey, 7-2, and Northern Ontario's Krista McCarville, 6-3, were in playoff territory with two games to play. After seven straight wins, Carey fell 8-4 to McCarville in the afternoon draw.

Quebec's Eve Belisle was 6-4 with a game against B.C. at night. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Bickell determined to fight MS, return to ice

Bryan Bickell is taking the next step toward his goal of returning to the Carolina Hurricanes while fighting multiple sclerosis.

The Hurricanes announced Thursday that they've placed the forward on waivers with the purpose of assigning him to their AHL affiliate in Charlotte.

Bickell, 30, who has been out since October, was diagnosed with MS in November. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pens reinforce blue line via trade with Canes

The Pittsburgh Penguins acquired veteran defenceman Ron Hainsey from the Carolina Hurricanes in exchange for minor-league forward Danny Kristo and a draft pick on Thursday.

The Penguins' defensive unit has been depleted with Trevor Daley out for six weeks after arthroscopic knee surgery. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Raps trade for help on wing

The Toronto Raptors have acquired guard/forward P.J. Tucker from the Phoenix Suns for forward Jared Sullinger and two second-round draft picks.

The deal gives Toronto depth at the wing position that was depleted when Terrence Ross was sent to Orlando last week in the trade that brought power forward Serge Ibaka to the Raptors. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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QB pioneer Custis dies at age 88

CFL

Former Ticat was first pro black pivot

All Bernie Custis wanted was the chance to be a pro quarterback, but to Damon Allen he will always be a football pioneer.

Custis, pro football's first black quarterback who blazed the trail for future CFL stars like Allen,

Warren Moon and Chuck Ealey, died Thursday. He was 88.

Custis made pro football history Aug. 29, 1951, when he became a starter with the Hamilton Tiger-Cats. It came after he was denied playing the position with the NFL's Cleveland Browns.

"During Bernie's time, they could actually lock the door and keep you from actually participating," Allen said. "I got the chance to walk through a hallway (because) they couldn't lock the

door, the door was already open because of Bernie.

"When you look at it that way, you have to give that kind of respect and honour to the pioneers before you."

Allen, who played 23 years in the CFL following his college career at Cal State Fullerton, said Custis was a silent, humble trail-blazer. He relished more getting the chance to play quarterback at the pro level than the historical significance of his accom-

plishment.

"That's it," said Allen. "The enjoyment of playing the game took away from the focus of being the first."

Ealey, who arrived in Hamilton in '72 after being bypassed by the NFL despite a brilliant tenure at Toledo, echoed Allen's sentiments.

"Bernie was a total gentleman, very respectful and humble," Ealey said. "He never used it as a framework to say, 'I was the

first black quarterback to come to Canada,' or anything like that.

"It was more, 'We're all here, great, we got the opportunity.'"

Custis starred at quarterback with Syracuse University before being taken sixth overall by the Cleveland Browns in the 1951 NFL draft. But the former college roommate of Al Davis — the late Oakland Raiders coach and owner — was told he'd play safety with the club, a move he resisted. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Bernie Custis with the Ticats in the 1950s.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

PREMIER LEAGUE

Ranieri's Leicester fairy tale is over

Masterminding one of the greatest upsets in sporting history wasn't enough for Claudio Ranieri to keep his job at Leicester.

Ranieri was fired by Leicester on Thursday, nine months after the 65-year-old Italian manager guided the club to the English Premier League title at pre-season odds of 5,000-1.

Leicester's Thai owners took the drastic measure with soccer's ultimate fairy tale threatening to have an unhappy ending. In a dreadful title defence, the team is one point and one place above the relegation zone and in serious danger of losing its status in the world's most lucrative league.

"We are duty-bound to put the club's long-term interests above all sense of personal sentiment," Leicester vice-chairman Aiyawatt Srivaddhanaprabha said, "no matter how strong that might be."

On current form, Leicester is heading for relegation with 13 games left. It hasn't scored a goal in six league games in 2017 and has won one of its



Claudio Ranieri

GETTY IMAGES

last 10 games in the league.

The team was eliminated from the FA Cup last weekend by third-tier team Millwall, which won 1-0 despite playing

most of the second half with 10 players.

"His status as the most successful Leicester City manager of all time is without question," a club statement said of Ranieri.

"However, domestic results in the current campaign have placed the club's Premier League status under threat, and the board reluctantly feels that a change of leadership, while admittedly painful, is necessary in the club's greatest interest."

Leicester, with a team of journeymen, cast-offs and previously unheralded players, won the Premier League by 10 points, a feat widely viewed as one of the greatest in all sports. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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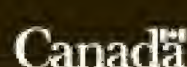
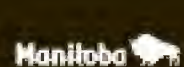
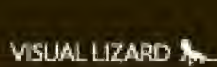
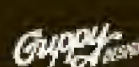
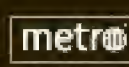
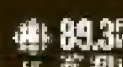
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MAKE IT TONIGHT

Creamy Broccoli and Cheese Soup



PHOTO: MAYA VISHNEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

A generous serving of cheddar gives this vegetarian soup a satisfying creaminess.

Ready in 35 minutes

Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 25 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients

- 4 cups broccoli florets and stem (cut off tough ends) chopped fairly small
- 1 onion chopped
- 2 cups chopped, peeled potato
- 2 cloves garlic minced
- 1 glug olive oil
- 4 cups stock (vegetable or chicken, low sodium)
- 1 1/2 cups milk
- 1 cup grated cheddar
- 1/4 cup grated Parmesan

• salt and pepper to taste

Directions

1. Sauté onion and garlic in a Dutch oven or other large, heavy-bottomed pot for about 5 minutes until soft.

2. Add vegetables and stock and allow to simmer for about 20 minutes until the vegetables are tender.

3. In small batches, ladle the broth and vegetables into your blender and purée. Pour each batch into a bowl as you go. Pour the purée back into your pot.

4. Over medium heat add milk and cheese and stir until the cheese melts. Add salt and pepper to taste.

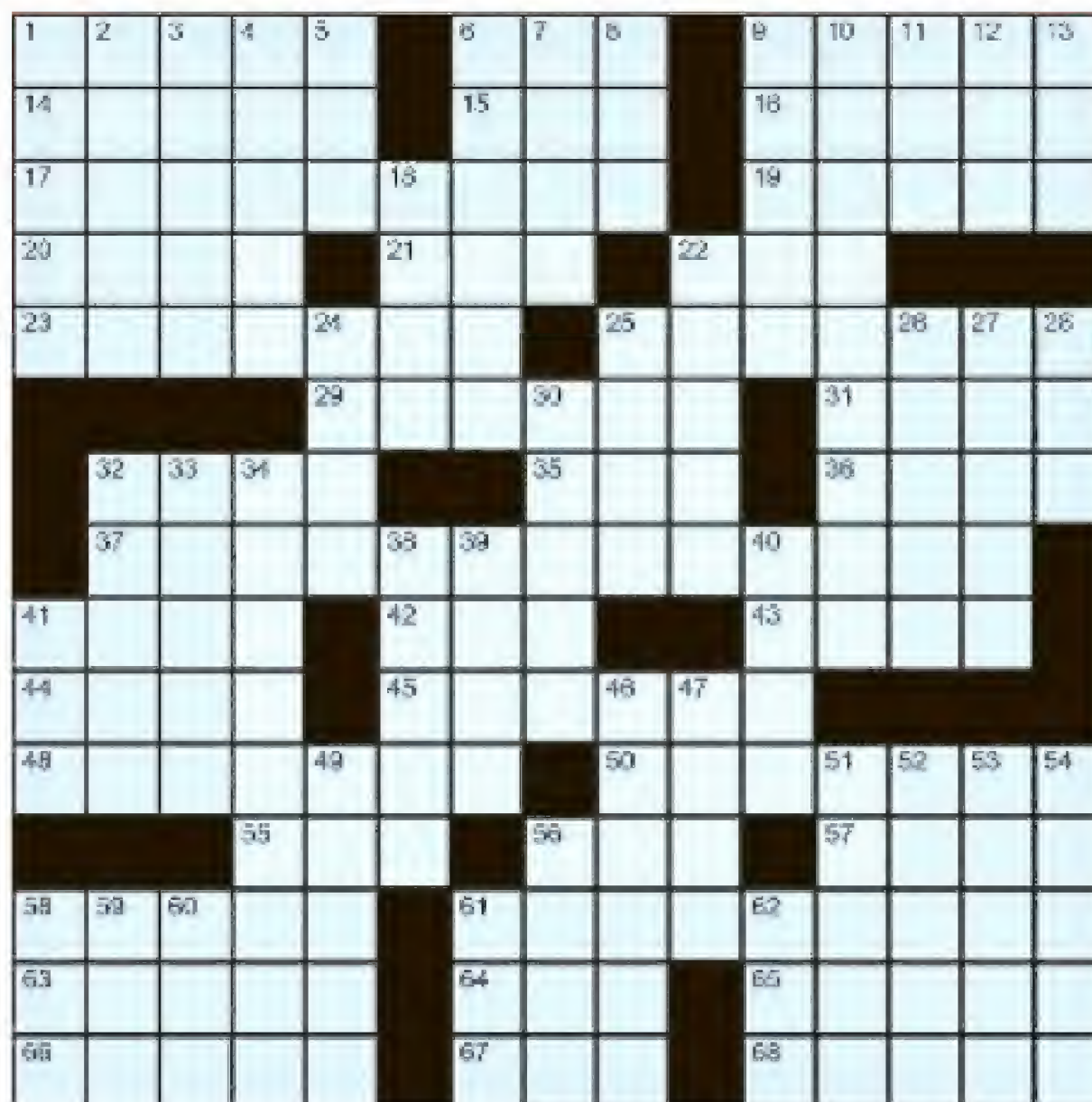
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CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

- Analyze
- Sit-ups targets
- Prepare mentally
- 'Z' Camaro models
- Six: Italian
- Writer Charles' bookish surname
- Oscars 2017! Canadian nominee in the 'Short Film (Animated)' category, "___ and Cigarettes" (2016)
- Comic strip, Li'l ___
- "___ tete, Alouette..."
- Movie ___
- Dietary letters
- Certain conifer: 2 wds.
- Oscars 2017! Shine on the red carpet: 3 wds.
- Appears, like an online ad: 2 wds.
- Tick ___
- Gov. agents
- Three: Italian
- Obi accessory
- Oscars 2017! In Sci-Fi flick 'Arrival' (2016), Amy Adams' character, a linguistics professor, translates it: 2 wds.
- Lines giver
- Standard stat.
- Genetic messengers, commonly
- Twice's half
- Conforming, ___ the line
- Oscars 2017! Do this to experience the show from home: 2 wds.
- Regina-born actor Leslie
- Mattel product



- Oscars 2017! ___, Feb. 26th
- Virginia willow
- Oscars 2017! Be part of the movie's cast: 2 wds.
- Oscars 2017! Gala party catered by Wolfgang Puck, ___ Ball
- Ring up

- Yalie
- Hair dye brand
- Like lemons
- Albanian currency
- Genuflect

DOWN

- Oscars 2017! Canadian filmmaker Alan Barillaro's nominated work in the category at #17-Across
- Mountain ridge
- Writer Mr. Dahl
- Combat
- Keyboard key

- Comparably down-wardly-dug: 2 wd.
- Red veggie
- Formally fine fellow
- Oscars 2017! Red carpet designer name
- Oscars 2017! Ryan Gosling's Oscar-nominated role in "La La

- Land" (2016)
- PBS chef Martin
- Alphabetic trio
- HRH part
- Money Object link: 2 wds.
- Fasten anew
- ___ dixit (Un-proven claim)
- Singe
- Friendly Islands
- Land units
- Old Hollywood studio
- Oscars 2017! Host Jimmy Kimmel's platform
- Flora's friend?
- Vote in
- Oscars 2017! Category in which Canadian filmmaker Denis Villeneuve is nominated for "Arrival" (2016)
- Dapper
- Ukraine city, to Russians
- Encourage
- Moo-er
- Northwest Territories town
- Three squared
- Tea sweetener
- ___ closet
- Stock
- Spooky
- Rhinal
- Exclusive
- Fitting
- Steeped beverage
- Big load, States-style
- Congee
- 1960s Pres. sibling

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
This is a marvelous day to schmooze with others. Enjoy the company of friends, and in particular, enjoy the company of groups. People are warmhearted today.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You look good to others today. In part, people see that you are ready to show your affection for others, and they like this. (Of course they do — everyone wants to be loved and appreciated.)

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Travel for pleasure will appeal to you today. This also is a good day to mingle with people from different backgrounds and other cultures.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
It will be easy to take part in discussions about inheritances and shared property today, because people are in a good mood. In addition, they feel cooperative and generous. (That's all you need.)

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Relations with others are very positive today. Entertain at home. Don't hesitate to let others know how much you care for them.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
This is a good day at work because coworkers are supportive. You also might see ways to make your workspace look and feel more attractive.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
This is a great day for a date or any kind of social outing. Enjoy sports events and playful activities with children. Whatever interactions you have today will be warm and rewarding.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Entertain at home today. Invite the gang over for good food and drink! Discussions with female family members will be positive and warm.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
All your communications with others today will be upbeat and affectionate. This is a strong day for writers and salespeople, as well as those of you who teach or act.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You can boost your income today, because this is a financially favorable day. If shopping, you will want to buy beautiful things for yourself and loved ones.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
This is a positive, feel-good day because the Moon is in your sign, dancing nicely with Venus. Enjoy schmoozing with others.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Work alone or behind the scenes today, because you feel content and happy with the world. You want to take some time just for you, and why not? Find a comfy place and enjoy your favorite drink.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

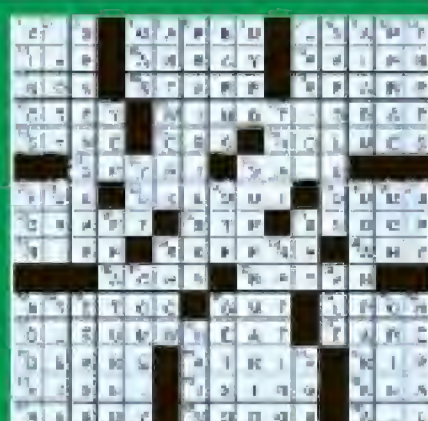
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